

(a) whether Government are aware of the news-item appearing in the Economic Times of the 4th December, 2000 (Kolkata edition) under the caption, "IDBI cuts rate for Dabhol's outstanding loans to 14 per cent";

(b) if so, the reasons for such reduction; and

(d) the modalities obtained to pass the saving to consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In accordance with the practices and usages customary amongst banks and in conformity with the provisions of statutes governing public sector banks and financial institutions as also the provisions of public Financial Institutions (Obligation as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act, 1983, further details relating to individual constituents cannot be divulged.

Assistance to Kerala by NABARD

2641. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of assistance extended by NABARD to Kerala during this financial year for strengthening agricultural credit in the State;

(b) the number of Constructional works such as Bridges and Roads undertaken by the NABARD in Kerala during the current financial year and the amount earmarked therefor; and

(c) the number of such works proposed to be undertaken by the NABARD in Kerala in the coming years togetherwith the details of places in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The details of credit limits sanctioned by National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to State Co-operative Banks (SCBs)/District Central Co-operative Banks (DCCBs) and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in Kerala during the year 2000-2001 are furnished below:—

		(Rs. Crore)
Sl. No.	Purpose	Amount
1.	Short Term (Seasonal Agricultural Operations)	
	SCB/DCCBs	121.68
	Regional Rural Banks	131.40

Sl. No.	Purpose	Amount
2.	Short Term (Other than SAO)	
	SCB/DCCBs	54.75
	Regional Rural Banks	67.05
3.	Loans to State Government for contributing to the share capital of cooperative credit institutions	0.65

Apart from above, NABARD has also provided refinance assistance to the tune of Rs. 157.77 crores to various credit agencies in the State of Kerala, such as commercial banks, Regional Rural Banks, Kerala State Co-operative Agricultural and Rural Development Bank in respect of investment credit for agriculture disbursed by them during the current financial year.

(b) and (c) NABARD sanctions loan out of Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for implementation of eligible infrastructure projects prioritized by the State Governments. Number of bridges and roads as also loans out of RIDF sanctioned to Kerala during the current financial year are as under:

ITEM	NUMBER	RIDF (LOAN) (Rs. Crore)
Bridges	16	21.25
Roads	94	53.10

Role of management in dealing with VRS petitions in public sector banks

2642. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the management in public sector banks which are now flooded with voluntary retirement petitions from more than 80000 employees are drafting better deals for those staying back to deliver the efficient bank services;

(b) if so, the number of employees in each public sector bank who has so far applied for VRS and whether the number of such employees is much greater in State Bank of India; and

(c) if so, whether this is a reflection on the management?